

Church and tries to find time for a round of golf. During his many missions abroad, he sets up a web cam to keep in touch with his wife Shannan, his two children, Nickolus and Hillery and his parents Jay and Mary Justice.

One of the benefits of being in service for Kevin is the opportunity to travel to many countries, including the United Arab Emirates, England, Afghanistan, and the Netherlands. While serving in Operation Enduring Freedom, Kevin was awarded the Bronze Star for justifying the need for additional troops and rotating soldiers in the field.

As a member of the Florida National Guard, Kevin has been deployed for many of the hurricanes that have struck Florida's shores, including Andrew, Charlie, Jeanne and Ivan. Kevin served primarily as a liaison for military assistance and was the go to person to acquire supplies. He went to Oakley Fruit Company to request the use of their tankers to provide purified water to dialysis patients.

One of Kevin's highest honors is his membership in the Royal Order of Saint Barbara, an honorary military society of the United States Field Artillery. Both U.S. Marine and Army field artillery, along with their military and civilian supporters, are eligible for membership. The order links field artillerymen of the past and present in a brotherhood of professionalism, selfless service and sacrifice symbolized by Saint Barbara.

Mr. Speaker, it is soldiers like Kevin Justice who volunteer to protect the freedoms that all Americans hold dear to their hearts. While brave men and women like Kevin serve in the name of freedom and liberty, his family, friends and loved ones should know that this Congress will never forget his sacrifice and commitment.

HONORING ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVIST DAVID HAHN-BAKER

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2006

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, It is my distinct honor to recognize David Hahn-Baker as the 2006 recipient of the Paul MacClennan Environmental Citizen of the Year Award as presented by Eire County Environmental Education Institute. ECEEI has chosen to acknowledge Mr. Hahn-Baker's lifelong commitment to environmental causes, which are deserving of acknowledgement before this chamber.

Mr. Hahn-Baker is the Founder and President of Inside/Out Political Consultants. An independent national consulting firm based in Buffalo, NY, Inside/Out works with national and local organizations across the country to address the intensifying environmental crisis.

Mr. Hahn-Baker's organization has worked with numerous local and national environmental organizations, including: Community Action Organization of Erie County; Earth Day Network; Buffalo Foundation; Tides Foundation; National Religious Partnership for the Environment; American Resources Information Network; EarthShare; League of Conservation Voters; National Wildlife Foundation; Lawyer's Committee for Civil Rights Under Law; Greenpeace USA; Southern Organizing Committee.

Mr. Hahn-Baker has also taught graduate and undergraduate classes at the University of Michigan and George Washington University. Additionally, Mr. Hahn-Baker was instrumental in the development of the Environment Health Advisory Network at the State University of New York at Buffalo.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank Mr. Hahn-Baker who has dedicated his professional career to environmental preservation. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. David Hahn Baker whom is so richly deserving of this honor.

HONORING MR. ALEX TRUJILLO, REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2006

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Alex Trujillo, who has served for 35 years in the federal government, most recently as the Region VIII Administrator for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. A personable, thoughtful and caring individual, Mr. Trujillo has worked closely with my office on numerous occasions to ensure that beneficiaries of Medicare, Medicaid and Children's Health Programs are receiving reliable information from which to base their healthcare decisions.

Under Mr. Trujillo's direction, nearly 92 percent of beneficiaries in Region VIII now have prescription drug coverage. This is a remarkable number of people receiving much needed healthcare coverage, especially in a time of rising prescription drug costs.

Over the past four decades, Medicare has grown to become a critical provider of healthcare services for millions of Americans. More often than not, recipients of Medicare are not fully aware of all of the advantages and health benefits to which they are entitled. Consequently, many beneficiaries pay a higher premium for their healthcare or do not understand where and how they can make savings. One of Alex Trujillo's accomplishments has been his leadership in improving public education about Medicare. During his tenure, Region VIII has measured an increase in responsible healthcare decision-making by beneficiaries that not only provides better quality healthcare, but also utilizes services more efficiently. This is an important accomplishment considering that Region VIII provides services for 3.2 percent of the U.S. population. It is also one of the biggest regions geographically, with a coverage area that stretches from Colorado to Montana, Wyoming, Utah, North Dakota and South Dakota. Mr. Trujillo's attention to rural communities has also been noteworthy.

Following his graduation from college in 1971, Mr. Trujillo entered public service at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. For the last 20 years he has worked for the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). He gained valuable experience in the Divisions of Medicare and Health Standards and Quality, and also served as the Assistant Regional Inspector General for the Office of Investigations and Office of the Inspec-

tor General. In short, he knows the landscape of these agencies and developed a reputation for exceptional service.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our appreciation to Alex Trujillo for his record of service in the federal government.

IN RECOGNITION OF DAVID LAWRENCE, JR.

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2006

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, David Lawrence, Jr. is a 20-year veteran of the newspaper business, serving in many capacities including positions as the editor of the Charlotte Observer, the publisher and executive editor of the Detroit Free Press, and the publisher of the Miami Herald which, under his leadership, won five Pulitzer Prizes for investigative reporting, meritorious public service, editorial cartooning and local news reporting.

David Lawrence, Jr. has been awarded eleven honorary doctoral degrees and has received numerous awards for his writing, including the First Amendment Award from the Scripps Howard Foundation and the Inter American Press Association Commentary Award.

After his retirement from The Miami Herald in 1999, David Lawrence, Jr. left the newspaper business entirely and focused his attention on child advocacy and early childhood education initiatives. His service in support of these efforts include his roles as Chairman of the Children's Trust, President of The Early Childhood Initiative, Chairman of the Florida Partnership for School Readiness, Chairman of the Governor's Blue Ribbon Panel on Child Protection, and member of the High/Scope Educational Research Foundation and the Foundation for Child Development.

His legacy of education and service to the community will continue at the David Lawrence, Jr. K-8 Center, a Miami-Dade County Public School for 1,600 students across from the north campus of Florida International University in North Miami, Florida. Mr. Lawrence, Jr.'s work exemplifies the contributions of so many South Floridians who work tirelessly to strengthen our community. My sincerest gratitude to a great journalist, philanthropist and my constituent, David Lawrence, Jr.

RECOGNITION OF DR. DENNIS SPELLMAN

HON. W. TODD AKIN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2006

Mr. AKIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to state for the record how deeply saddened I am by the recent death of Dr. Dennis Spellman.

As President of Lindenwood University in St. Charles Missouri since 1989, Dr. Spellman leaves a legacy of success. His unique leadership style resulted in the tremendous growth of Lindenwood from a small struggling college, to the beautiful sprawling campus of almost 3,500 students (living on campus) that it is today as Lindenwood University.